

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph at page 2, line 23, through page 3, line 4, as follows:

--The capability of a correction algorithm to propose a correction of a received word is faithfully represented by the formula:

$$[[2t = \Delta]] \quad 2t \leq \Delta,$$

where t is the number of erroneous symbols in the received word, and Δ is a strictly positive integer which we will call the "solving capability" of the algorithm. If the value of $(2t)$ is less than or equal to the solving capability, the correction algorithm will be capable of correcting the received word. If the value of $(2t)$ is greater than the solving capability, the algorithm can:

- either simply fail in its correction attempt,
- or be capable of proposing a correction of the received word; in this case, if that correction is accepted, the risk is taken of it being erroneous, i.e. that the code word proposed is not in fact the word sent; clearly, the greater $(2t)$ is with respect to Δ , the higher the risk.--